WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

 A method for storing a holographic interference pattern, comprising the steps of: computing the interference pattern based on a mathematical description of an object;
 and

forming a medium including the interference pattern to modify incident light so that the modified incident light includes a holographic image of the object.

2. The method of claim 1, comprising:

the step of generating the holographic image by directing at least one beam of light onto a surface of the medium to modify the beam of light with the interference pattern, the modified beam comprising the holographic image.

- 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the light is coherent.
- 4. The method of claim 5, wherein the step of computing uses quantum electrodynamics.
 - 5. The method of claim 3, wherein at least part of the medium is light-permeable.
 - 6. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
 partitioning the interference pattern; and

representing each partition as a weighted sum of basis interference patterns.

- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of forming includes: printing the interference pattern on a printable medium.
- 8. Apparatus for storing a holographic interference pattern, comprising:

 means for computing the interference pattern based on a mathematical description of
 an object; and

means for forming a medium including the interference pattern to modify incident light so that the modified incident light comprises a holographic image of the object.

- 9. The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising means for generating the image using the medium and at least one light source.
 - 10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the light source emits coherent light.
- 11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein at least part of the medium is light-permeable.
- 12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the means for computing uses quantum electrodynamics.
- 13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the means for computing partitions the interference pattern and represents each partition as a weighted sum of basis interference patterns.

14. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the forming means is a printer.